

CALFED Interim Governance Structure for Program Implementation

4/13/99

CALFED is in the process of working with CALFED agencies and stakeholders on the long term governance structures for the Bay Delta Program. A conceptual long term governance structure is expected to be included in the draft EIS/EIR in June. (The ecosystem governance recommendation may not be included in June draft if the California Environmental Trust's expert panel has not been convened).

Although a decision on the long term structure has not been made, state and federal legislation is likely to be needed. Consequently, the long term governance structure is not expected to be in place by the time of the ROD and actually may take several years to finalize. To provide for the transition from planning to long term implementation, CALFED proposes the following interim governance structure. A basic principle of the interim proposal is that there would be no new legislation proposed and no changes to existing authorities.

Oversight and Coordination--Policy Group

- Continue the CALFED Policy Group to serve as the forum for setting CALFED policy and program priorities, coordination and dispute resolution within and between programs, setting funding priorities and allocating funding, and assessing overall program performance. Legal authority for program funding and implementation would continue to rest with the agency currently assigned the responsibility. Policy Group would be the forum for coordinating implementation to ensure consistency with CALFED objectives.
- Policy Group procedures will be modified to establish decision making protocols. Policy Group continues to recommend actions to agencies with primary authority. The protocols need to provide for formalized participation and accountability for each member agency.
- Amend the Framework Agreement and/or CALFED contract as needed.

Program Management and Coordination (*levees, water quality, water use efficiency, storage, conveyance, transfers watershed management, ecosystem, and CMARP*)

For the interim, CALFED should serve as the lead entity for overseeing program implementation and coordination. Direct implementation of program actions will remain with the appropriate state, federal, local or private entity. CALFED staff will work with agencies and stakeholders on a policy and technical basis in directing the program. The process adopted for stakeholder and agency involvement will likely vary between program elements depending on the program scope and needs in the first few years. CALFED staff will submit program implementation decisions to the Policy Group for approval. In consultation with CALFED agencies and stakeholders, CALFED will be responsible for:

- Manage/oversee program element implementation
- Identify priorities, propose actions, develop budget
- Assess and report on program performance
- Coordination with implementing agencies and stakeholders